CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A cordless telephone, comprising:

a base unit, including a paging mechanism; and

a handset, including an alerting mechanism responsive to the paging mechanism, wherein the paging mechanism and alerting mechanism are for use in locating a missing handset, ~~and~~

wherein at least one of the base unit and the handset includes a page adjusting mechanism to continuously affect a characteristic of a page alerting signal output from the alerting mechanism based on a condition, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

Claims 2-4 are Cancelled.

5. (Currently Amended) A cordless telephone, comprising:

a base unit, including a paging mechanism; and

a handset, including an alerting mechanism responsive to the paging mechanism, wherein at least one of the base unit and the handset includes a page adjusting mechanism to continuously affect a characteristic of a page alerting signal output from the alerting mechanism based on a condition,

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset, and

wherein the adjusting mechanism affects the alerting signal to have a duration based on an estimate of the distance between the base unit and the handset.

6. (Currently Amended) A cordless telephone, comprising:

a base unit, including a paging mechanism; and

a handset, including an alerting mechanism responsive to the paging mechanism,

wherein at least one of the base unit and the handset includes a page adjusting mechanism to continuously affect a characteristic of a page alerting signal output from the alerting mechanism based on a condition,

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset, and

wherein the adjusting mechanism affects the alerting signal to have a volume based on an estimate of the distance between the base unit and the handset.

7. (Currently Amended) A cordless telephone, comprising:

a base unit, including a paging mechanism; and

a handset, including an alerting mechanism responsive to the paging mechanism, wherein at least one of the base unit and the handset includes a page adjusting mechanism to continuously affect a characteristic of a page alerting signal output from the alerting mechanism based on a condition,

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset, and

wherein the adjusting mechanism affects the alerting signal to have a particular tonal quality based on an estimate of the distance between the base unit and the handset.

Claims 8-22 are Cancelled.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of affecting an alerting signal of a telephone handset, comprising the steps of:

sensing a condition related to a location of the handset; and

continuously affecting a characteristic of the alerting signal based on the sensed condition, wherein the sensed condition is a signal delay measurement, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

Claims 24-30 are Cancelled.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of affecting an alerting signal of a telephone handset, comprising the steps of:

paging the telephone handset via the alerting signal;

sensing a condition related to a location of the handset; and

continuously affecting a characteristic of the alerting signal based on the sensed condition, wherein the location is sensed relative to a corresponding base unit, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method of affecting an alerting signal of a telephone handset, comprising the steps of:

paging the telephone handset via the alerting signal;

sensing a condition related to a location of the handset; and

continuously affecting a characteristic of the alerting signal based on the sensed condition, wherein the characteristic is one of duration and tonal quality, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of affecting an alerting signal of a telephone handset, comprising the steps of:

paging the telephone handset via the alerting signal;

sensing a condition related to a location of the handset; and

continuously affecting a characteristic of the alerting signal based on the sensed condition, wherein the condition is a received signal strength indication, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the condition is a received signal strength indication related to a signal from a wireless transceiver.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 35, wherein the wireless transceiver is part of a base unit associated with the handset.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 36, wherein the base unit is a cordless telephone base unit.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the condition is a signal delay measurement related to a signal from a wireless transceiver.

40. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 39, wherein the wireless transceiver is part of a base unit associated with the handset.

41. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 40, wherein the base unit is a cordless telephone base unit.

42. (Currently amended) A method of affecting an alerting signal of a telephone handset, comprising the steps of:

paging the telephone handset via the alerting signal;

sensing a condition related to a location of the handset; and

continuously affecting a characteristic of the alerting signal based on the sensed condition, wherein the condition is an error related measurement, and

wherein the condition is a measured quality of a communication channel between the base unit and the handset and the measured quality of the condition is related to a distance between the base station and the handset.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 42, wherein the condition is an error related measurement related to a signal from a wireless transceiver.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 43, wherein the wireless transceiver is part of a base unit associated with the handset.

45 (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 44, wherein the base unit is a cordless telephone base unit.